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31 January 1984Jell
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing on South Asia for the Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, Committee on Foreign Affairs

1. On 31 January 1984 at 10:00 in Room H-139 of the Capitol, CIA, DIA, and INR jointly briefed the Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs, House Foreign Affairs Committee, on key issues and recent developments in South Asia. Each of the above agencies provided written answers to questions posed by the Subcommittee in advance of the briefing. At the briefing representatives from the agencies orally responded to those questions. A transcript was taken. []

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2. Present from the Subcommittee were:

Stephen J. Solarz (D., NY), Chairman
Harry M. Reid (D., NV)

Benjamin A. Gilman (R., NY)
Joel Pritchard (R., WV)
Henry J. Hyde (R., IL)

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3. The briefers were:

[] Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)
National Intelligence Officer for Near East
and South Asia (NIO/NESA)

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Assisted by:

[] CIA/NIO Nuclear Proliferation
CIA, Directorate of Intelligence (DDI)
Office of Near East and South Asia Analysis (NESA)
CIA/DDI/NESA

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[] Defense Intelligence Agency, NIO/NESA

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Assisted by:

George Harris
Assisted by:
Eliza Van Hollen

Department of State, INR/NESA

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4. The briefing began with an update on the situation in Afghanistan by [redacted]. He discussed Soviet military strategy aimed at defeating a determined and increasingly effective Afghan insurgency. He also outlined Soviet difficulties including logistic problems, equipment inadequacies, troop morale and illness, and other hardships imposed by the harsh Afghan environment. [redacted]

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Solarz said he was given such a briefing, sometime in the past.) [redacted]

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5. [redacted] discussed the current domestic situation in Pakistan, with its sound economic progress but uncertain political outlook. He described President Zia's political opposition and efforts to dislodge him, but underlined Zia's good track record at offsetting his opponents. [redacted]

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6 Mr. Harris described Indo-Pakistani relations, their presently troubled state, and the unlikely prospects for an improvement. [redacted]

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8. The remainder of the two-hour session was taken up with questions from Mr. Solarz and other Members. Mr. Solarz asked the State Department to look into the possibility of adding India to the Department's list of terrorist-supporting nations in view of India's alleged assistance to anti-Zia terrorists. The briefing ended without any additional requests and the Chairman expressed appreciation for the efforts of those who participated. [redacted]

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[redacted]
Liaison Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

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